



Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption

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Implementation Review Group
Resumed fourteenth session
Vienna, 4–8 September 2023

Annotated provisional agenda

Addendum

Annotations

1. Organizational matters

(a) Opening of the session

The resumed fourteenth session of the Implementation Review Group will be opened on Monday, 4 September 2023, at 10 a.m., at the Vienna International Centre, M-Building, Boardroom B/M1. The session will be held in person. Participants will be able to observe the proceedings online, but in order to facilitate the work of the interpreters, only 30 minutes of each three-hour meeting will be allotted to statements delivered remotely by online participants. Delegations are therefore encouraged to ensure, to the extent possible, that statements are delivered by the representatives present in the meeting room.

(b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

In its resolution 8/2, the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption requested the Implementation Review Group to continue to hold regular sessions at least once a year, based on an annotated provisional agenda and programme of work issued as early as possible in order to enable the States parties to plan the composition of the delegations and prepare for focused and efficient discussions on the main topics of the session, and, while taking into consideration the directions of the Conference, being able to adjust topics of discussion to maximize the effectiveness of its discussions and work outcomes, subject to the availability of existing resources.

The proposed organization of work for the resumed fourteenth session (see annex) was prepared in line with the guidance contained in the workplan for the subsidiary bodies of the Conference, which was approved by the Bureau of the Conference, in order to enable consideration of agenda items 4, 5 and 6 jointly with the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery.



2. Performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

Drawing of lots

On the first day of the resumed fourteenth session, lots may be drawn to select reviewing States parties for any States parties requesting redraws. Lots may also be drawn to select the reviewing States parties for the first and second cycle reviews of any States parties that have become parties to the Convention since the previous drawing of lots.

Progress made in the conduct of country reviews

In its decision 5/1, the Conference of the States Parties decided that the Implementation Review Group should include in its future sessions an agenda item allowing for discussion of relevant information collected, with the support of the secretariat, in order to facilitate the assessment of the performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in accordance with paragraph 48 of the terms of reference, following the completion of the first review cycle.

In its resolution 8/2, the Conference, inter alia, requested the Implementation Review Group to continue to collect, with the support of the secretariat, relevant information, including the views of States parties, pertaining to the performance of the Implementation Review Mechanism, with a view to continuing, at the appropriate time, its assessment of the performance of the Mechanism, as provided for in paragraph 48 of its terms of reference and Conference decision 5/1. The Conference also requested the secretariat to continue to provide to the Implementation Review Group analyses of the time frames associated with the crucial stages of the review process, including statistics on the number of States parties that are behind schedule, with the aim of facilitating a more efficient process.

In response to the significant delays incurred during the second cycle of the Implementation Review Mechanism, in its decision 8/1, the Conference extended the duration of the second cycle until June 2024 to allow for the completion of country reviews and called upon States parties to accelerate the completion of the second cycle.

The secretariat has compiled and analysed information relating to the overall performance of the Implementation Review Mechanism during the first and second review cycles, including the responses received to the self-assessment checklist, the direct dialogues conducted, the executive summaries and country review reports that have been finalized and the country review reports that have been made available on the website of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The secretariat prepared a note on the performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption ([CAC/COSP/IRG/2023/2](#)) for the consideration of the Implementation Review Group at its fourteenth session, which was held from 12 to 16 June 2023. An oral update on the performance of the Mechanism will be provided by the secretariat during the resumed fourteenth session.

Next phase of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

In the political declaration entitled “Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation”, adopted by the General Assembly at its special session against corruption, held in 2021, Member States, inter alia, committed to fully and effectively following up on the conclusions and observations from the review process and welcomed the efforts by the Conference to assess the performance of the Implementation Review Mechanism and adapt, where appropriate, procedures and requirements for the follow-up.

The matter of the next review phase of the Implementation Review Mechanism was discussed at the thirteenth, first resumed thirteenth and second resumed thirteenth sessions of the Implementation Review Group, held in 2022, as well as at its fourteenth session, held in June 2023. At that session, the Group had before it an analysis of the views of States parties on the performance of the Mechanism, lessons learned and potential areas for improvement ([CAC/COSP/IRG/2023/3](#)).

In order to further facilitate its deliberations on the next review phase of the Implementation Review Mechanism, the Group will have before it a note by the Secretariat on lessons learned from other review mechanisms on their operation and transition to a next phase ([CAC/COSP/IRG/2023/8](#)) and the addendum thereto ([CAC/COSP/IRG/2023/8/Add.1](#)). In addition, a panel will be organized on this topic.

Moreover, under the present item, delegations will be encouraged to deliver statements on the performance of the Implementation Review Mechanism and on its next phase. Delegations will also be encouraged to report on substantive matters in connection with the implementation of the Convention, including on national measures taken as a follow-up to the reviews carried out under agenda item 4.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on lessons learned from other review mechanisms on their operation and transition to a next phase: experiences collected in transitions by other peer review mechanisms (part I) ([CAC/COSP/IRG/2023/8](#))

Addendum to the note by the Secretariat on lessons learned from other review mechanisms on their operation and transition to a next phase: elements of peer review mechanisms subject to transitions, observations and trends (part II) ([CAC/COSP/IRG/2023/8/Add.1](#))

4. State of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

(a) Exchange of information, practices and experiences gained in the implementation of the Convention

In its resolution 8/2, the Conference encouraged States parties to keep using the Implementation Review Group as a platform for the voluntary exchange of information on national measures taken during and after the completion of country reviews, including strategies adopted, challenges encountered and best practices identified, as well as, where appropriate, the follow-up to the recommendations made in the country review reports, while taking into account the need for efficient discussions and decision-making processes in the sessions of the Group. The Conference also welcomed the important and useful thematic implementation reports, regional supplementary addenda and updates on technical assistance needs prepared by the secretariat for the consideration of the Group, and encouraged States parties, the United Nations and other stakeholders to make full use of those documents.

Accordingly, the Implementation Review Group will have before it a thematic report prepared by the Secretariat on the implementation of chapter V (Asset recovery) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption ([CAC/COSP/IRG/2023/9](#)), as well as a regional supplement thereto ([CAC/COSP/IRG/2023/9/Add.1](#)).

Furthermore, a thematic report prepared by the Secretariat on the implementation of provisions of a cross-cutting nature in chapter II (Preventive measures) and chapter V (Asset recovery) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption ([CAC/COSP/IRG/2023/10](#)), as well as a regional supplement thereto ([CAC/COSP/IRG/2023/10/Add.1](#)) will be made available to the Implementation Review Group for its consideration.

States parties are encouraged to provide, under agenda item 4, further information on successes, good practices, challenges, technical assistance needs and measures taken after the completion of the country reviews under the first and second review cycles.

(b) Thematic discussion

Agenda item 4 will be discussed together with item 3 of the agenda for the twelfth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and with items 2 to 4 of the agenda for the seventeenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery, at joint meetings, which will include thematic discussions in line with the workplan for the subsidiary bodies.

Documentation

Thematic report prepared by the Secretariat on the implementation of chapter V (Asset recovery) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption ([CAC/COSP/IRG/2023/9](#))

Thematic report prepared by the Secretariat on the implementation of chapter V (Asset recovery) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (regional supplement) ([CAC/COSP/IRG/2023/9/Add.1](#))

Thematic report prepared by the Secretariat on the implementation of provisions of a cross-cutting nature in chapter II (Preventive measures) and chapter V (Asset recovery) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption ([CAC/COSP/IRG/2023/10](#))

Thematic report prepared by the Secretariat on the implementation of provisions of a cross-cutting nature in chapter II (Preventive measures) and chapter V (Asset recovery) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (regional supplement) ([CAC/COSP/IRG/2023/10/Add.1](#))

5. Technical assistance

In its resolution 8/8, the Conference encouraged States parties to, inter alia, address the needs identified during their country reviews and to promote national anti-corruption strategies and/or action plans as a tool for country-led and country-based, integrated and coordinated technical assistance programming and delivery. Moreover, in its resolution 9/4, the Conference called upon States parties to acknowledge the importance of promoting, facilitating and supporting timely, sustainable, adequate and effective technical assistance for strengthening national capacities to prevent and fight corruption and called for accelerated action at all levels and by all technical assistance providers in addressing such needs, upon request, including those identified through the Implementation Review Mechanism, by mobilizing sufficient financial assistance, technical support and other resources, as stated in paragraph 53 of the political declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its special session against corruption held in 2021. In order to enable States parties to exchange views on specific aspects of technical assistance, item 5 will be introduced by a panel discussion.

Agenda item 5 will be discussed together with item 3 of the agenda for the twelfth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and with item 5 of the agenda for the seventeenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery.

6. Follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation

At its special session held from 2 to 4 June 2021, the General Assembly adopted the political declaration entitled “Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation”. Member States, inter alia, committed to implementing that political declaration and invited the Conference, as the treaty body

with prime responsibility for promoting and reviewing the implementation of the Convention, to follow up and build on the declaration.

Furthermore, in its resolution 9/2, the Conference directed its subsidiary bodies, within their mandates, to take appropriate measures to follow up on the political declaration.

Accordingly, under the present item, the Implementation Review Group is expected to discuss appropriate measures to follow up on the political declaration. As approved by the extended Bureau of the Conference, the topic for the resumed fourteenth session will be measures to prevent money-laundering.

Article 52 (Prevention and detection of transfers of proceeds of crime) of the Convention continues to be the provision of chapter V with the highest number of gaps in implementation. In the political declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its special session against corruption held in 2021, Member States dedicated several paragraphs to issues of financial integrity and measures to prevent the financial system from being abused to hide, move and launder assets stemming from corruption. In particular, in paragraph 19 of the political declaration, States committed to instituting comprehensive domestic regulatory and supervisory regimes for banks and non-bank financial institutions, including natural or legal persons that provide formal or informal services for the transmission of money or value, or other bodies particularly susceptible to money-laundering, in order to deter and detect all forms of money-laundering in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, including when it concerns illicit financial flows. They further committed to strengthening the capacity of financial intelligence units to receive, analyse and disseminate to the competent authorities reports of suspicious financial transactions, and to encouraging cooperation among those units at the international level for the purpose of preventing and combating the transfer of proceeds of crime.

To facilitate the deliberations of the Implementation Review Group under the present item, a panel discussion will be organized on measures to prevent money-laundering, with a focus on the role of intermediaries (also referred to as professional enablers or gatekeepers) in the transfer of proceeds of crime.

Agenda item 6 will be discussed together with item 4 of the agenda for the twelfth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and with item 6 of the agenda for the seventeenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery.

7. Other matters

Under agenda item 7, the Implementation Review Group may wish to discuss any other matters.

9. Adoption of the report of the Implementation Review Group on its resumed fourteenth session

The Implementation Review Group is to adopt a report on its resumed fourteenth session, the draft of which is to be prepared by the secretariat.

Annex

Proposed organization of work

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
Monday, 4 September 2023		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	1 (a)	Opening of the session
	1 (b)	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
	2	Performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption
3–6 p.m.	2	Performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (continued)
	7	Other matters
Tuesday, 5 September 2023		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	4	State of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption ^a
	4 (a)	Exchange of information, practices and experiences gained in the implementation of the Convention ^a
3–6 p.m.	4	State of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption ^a (continued)
	4 (b)	Thematic discussion ^a
Wednesday, 6 September 2023		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	4	State of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption ^a (continued)
3–6 p.m.	4	State of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption ^a (continued)
Thursday, 7 September 2023		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	5	Technical assistance ^b
3–6 p.m.	5	Technical assistance ^b (continued)
Friday, 8 September 2023		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	6	Follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation ^c
3–6 p.m.	9	Adoption of the report of the Implementation Review Group on its resumed fourteenth session

^a Agenda item 4 will be discussed together with item 3 of the agenda for the twelfth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and with items 2 to 4 of the agenda for the seventeenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery.

^b Agenda item 5 will be discussed together with item 3 of the agenda for the twelfth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and with item 5 of the agenda for the seventeenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery.

^c Agenda item 6 will be discussed together with item 4 of the agenda for the twelfth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and with item 6 of the agenda for the seventeenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery.